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## GYMNASIUM IS TO BE DONE IN SEPTEMBER 1922

TRUSTEES INSTRUCT BUILDING  
COMMITTEE TO HAVE IT  
READY BY THEN.

### Omit Natatorium For the Present

At the midyear meeting of the Board of Trustees of Alma College held in Detroit Tuesday the board instructed the building committee to start work on the memorial gymnasium auditorium and to have it ready in September 1922, and in addition to his transacted considerable other business of importance to the future of the college.

Due to the fact that only \$88,000 of the \$110,000 sought in the county endowment campaign was secured, the natatorium of the gymnasium will not be built this summer. It will be constructed at a later date as money or its construction is available. The building will be 110 feet by 130 feet and about 45 feet in height. The main playing floor of the gymnasium will be 60 by 90 feet. Some feet from the playing floor, on three sides, will be seats which will provide a seating capacity at games of 350. At one end of the auditorium will be located an open stage 16 x 30 feet. When in use as an auditorium the gymnasium will have a seating capacity of about 600 people. It will be erected on the ground to the east of the present athletic field and will face on Cedar avenue.

The decision as to the location of the building means that ultimately the athletic field will be turned, so that instead of the gymnasium being at one end of the field, it will be on the side.

An announcement was made at the meeting that the General Education Board (Rockefeller foundation) has granted the college an extension to June 30, 1922, in which to meet the conditions of the boards pledge of \$75,000 to the college. The original pledge was conditional on being fulfilled by January 1, 1922. It is expected that by that date all conditions of this pledge will have been met.

A committee consisting of Dr. A. G. Studer, Professor Elmer A. Lyman and President Crooks was appointed to work out a plan for the leave of absence that has been granted college professors. It is expected that the new plan will be put in operation next year.

A plan of development of the college over the coming ten year period was laid before the board by a special committee consisting of Dr. Barkley, Dr. Minot Morgan, Rev. Brooke, President Crooks, Professor Randel and Professor Hamilton, which was adopted. It plans for the order of the erection of new buildings and securing of new equipment.

The building committee was also empowered to complete the work of remodeling the old gymnasium into a modern chemistry building. The first floor of this structure was remodeled this past summer and the work now contemplated is the remodeling of the second floor. It is believed that when this work has been completed Alma will have one of the most modern chemistry departments among the smaller colleges of the state.

A report of the students' participation in the student government on the campus was called for by the trustees and is to be given at the June meeting of the board.

Officers of the board were re-elected. They follow: Chairman, Dr. J. A. Barkley of Detroit; vice chairman, Francis King; treasurer, Clarence B. Chatfield; secretary and assistant treasurer, A. P. Cook.

## CROOKS ELECTED AS UNION HEAD

ALMA PREXY IS PRESIDENT OF  
UNION OF PRESBYTERIAN  
COLLEGES.

Pres. H. M. Crooks of Alma College has been elected as president of the Presbyterian College Union, the prexies of the Presbyterian colleges that are members of this organization honoring him with the presidency at a recent meeting.

The Presbyterian College Union is a national organization of the Presbyterian colleges of the country. Membership in the organization is optional, however. At the present time about forty colleges are members of the Union.

## Take Over the St. Louis Road

At a meeting of the Gratiot County Road Commissioners last week the commission voted to take over the two miles of road from the Pere Marquette railroad crossing in St. Louis, south to where trunk line, M-14 turns west into Alma.

St. Louis people have for some time endeavored to get this piece of road included as a part of M-14 or taken over as a part of the county road system because of its importance. The two mile stretch of road is a part of the direct road between Ithaca and St. Louis, and as a result looms up as an important piece of road.

The action of the county road commission in taking over the piece of road means that a portion of the cost of putting the road in good shape will be borne by the county. The maintenance cost of keeping the road in repair will also be taken by the county, now that the two miles of road has become a part of the county system.

## PROFITS SHOWN TO BE SMALL

DEPARTMENT STORES SHOW  
SMALL PROFIT FOR PAST  
YEAR IS FINDING.

That the past year has been anything but an easy year for retail dealers is shown from figures arrived at by the Business Research Bureau of Harvard University, which shows that the average profit made by 305 department stores during the year 1920, was 1.8 per cent. The figure is arrived at by a study and compilation of detailed profit and loss statements obtained from the stores in question.

The 305 stores are located in 39 states, in Canada and one in Hawaii. The D. W. Robinson store of this city was one of those reporting. The aggregate sales of the stores amounted to \$535,193,000, and the net sales of the individual firms ranged from \$71,000 to \$29,000,000.

In viewing this small profit it might be well to call attention to the fact that 1920 was one of the years in which retailers were said to be obtaining exorbitant prices for their goods.

The Harvard Bureau of Business Research has, in this work evidently shown that reports of exorbitant profits come from a lack of knowledge and understanding as to the expense that is involved in conducting a progressive department store, or for that matter any progressive business establishment.

Of the 305 stores reporting the average expense of the stores was 25.9 per cent of the net sales. The gross profit was 27.8 per cent showing that the net profit was 1.8 per cent.

## Lynch to Be a Forum Speaker

James Lynch, former president of the Pontiac Chamber of Commerce, will be a speaker at the open forum meeting of the Alma Chamber of Commerce to be held next Thursday evening.

Complete announcements relative to the forum meeting will be made at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon next Wednesday.

## MACGOWAN VERY PLEASING

Robert MacGowan, Pittsburgh minister, who appeared here Wednesday evening as the fourth number of the Community Lyceum Course, delighted his audience with his address "The Creed of the Flag."

Too many of us, said MacGowan, know the words of a creed, but forget the thing behind the words.

He pointed out that the first three words of the American constitution contain the hope of the world, these being the words, "We the people," and followed this with a strong plea for the urgent necessity of keeping pure our democracy.

That there can be no hope of a permanent world peace while kings remain on their thrones in European and other countries was pointed out by him. The reason given by him was that in monarchical forms of government that power does not come from "We the people."

## ALMA MAN SEEKS OFFICE

C. Earl Richards, a resident of this city for the past three years and a resident of the county for years, has announced himself as a candidate for the nomination for county clerk on the Republican ticket at the coming primary election. For three terms he was the township clerk of Washington township and served as a justice of the peace for some years while a resident of Fulton township. He is well known in this city.

## E. L. SMITH NOW ACTING POSTMASTER

WILL CONTINUE UNTIL PERMANENT  
POSTMASTER IS NAMED  
FOR OFFICE.

### Examination Set For February 14

Ezra L. Smith has been appointed as acting postmaster of the local post office and on Monday relieved Vincent P. Cash, who for seven years has been postmaster here. Cash resigned December 31, and asked that the resignation be given immediate effect.

E. L. Smith is a former assistant postmaster of the local office, taking this position when C. F. Brown was postmaster and continuing it for a time under the administration of V. P. Cash, finally resigning to go with The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc.

Mr. Smith left the Republic some months ago and is now connected with The Ruggles Motor Truck Company of Saginaw as secretary of the concern. He has continued to be a resident of Alma, however.

Just how long Mr. Smith will continue as acting postmaster here is not known. An examination for second class postmaster at the local office has been called for February 14 and it will probably be some little time after that date before a successor is named and the appointment made.

## CRISP SPOKE AT NOON LUNCHEON

RHODES, GERBER AND MURPHY  
WERE ALSO SPEAKERS AT  
MEETING.

Following a fine luncheon Wednesday noon, Glen Crisp, comptroller of The Republic Motor Truck Company Inc., gave an interesting talk on business prospects for the immediate future which held the close attention of the business men.

In his address he pointed out the need of the business men making purchases during 1922 only as they need them, as prices will be still on the decline during the year on the whole.

He explained the decrease in the buying power of the public, using the farmers for an illustration showing that they were receiving much less in proportion for their products than the materials that they had to purchase were costing as compared with the immediately previous years.

He pointed out that an easing market was coming calling attention to the decrease in money rates which in some places have decreased to 4 1/2 per cent on loans.

He said that success in business in 1922 depended on good management, good ideas, quality and price, and that sales would depend upon two factors, price and money with which to purchase.

Mr. C. G. Rhodes, Harry Gerber and C. R. Murphy in short talks pressed home the points of Mr. Crisp's address and called attention to the need of restoring the confidence of the buying public.

John Hunter of Newberry, who was visiting his two sons at Alma College, was introduced by C. V. Calkins and gave a short talk.

D. L. Johnson, acted as chairman of the meeting Wednesday.

## Weekly Editors to Hold Winter Meet

Publishers of Michigan weekly newspapers will gather at the Michigan Agricultural College for an informal conference on Jan. 20 and 21. The call for the meeting has been issued by S. R. Wilson, of Saline, secretary of the Weekly Press division of the Michigan Press and Printers Association, although it is understood that the meeting is not an official gathering of the association, as such.

Editors from all over the state will gather for the meeting, at which business "shop talk" is to be the order of the day.

## POSTMASTER EXAMINATION

An open competitive examination to fill the vacancy of postmaster at Alma will be held February 14, 1922. This examination is not an examination under the Civil Service Act and Rules, but is held under an Executive order issued May 10, 1921, and revised July 27, 1921. Candidates will not be required to report for examination at any place. Applications for examination may be secured at the post office or from the Civil Service Commission.

## "Peace Dollar" In Circulation

The new silver dollar, the "peace dollar," has just been placed in circulation, several hundred thousand having been shipped to the Federal Reserve banks by the federal mint at Philadelphia. The new coin was made in commemoration of the Arms Conference at Washington. It is designed with the head of Liberty on one side and on the other a dove upon a mountain top, clutching an olive branch, struck by the rays of the sun, with the word "Peace" beneath it. This is the first time the silver dollar has been changed since 1878. The coinage laws forbid any change in the design more often than once in 25 years except by special legislation. There will be 180,000,000 of the new coins issued, one-half of which will be dated 1921. The first dollar was sent by special messenger to President Harding.

## GOOD ROADS SAY THE SUPERVISORS

PASSED RESOLUTION WEDNESDAY  
DAY TO SHOW THAT THEY  
FAVOR GOOD ROADS.

Although no definite action was taken by the Gratiot County Board of Supervisors at their meeting last week in Ithaca to submit a road bond issue to the people of the county, this cannot be taken to mean that the supervisors are against good roads.

Neither can the fact that a mill tax was not spread be taken to mean that they were against good roads. The board which met last week had no power to levy such a tax. The new board to be elected this spring, and which will meet in the fall, will be the board that will have such power. The present board, as a whole, does not approve of the submission of a bond issue if money for Gratiot's share of the trunk line work can be obtained in any other way. That does not mean that the board is not in favor of good roads.

The board adequately expressed its feeling Wednesday afternoon when it passed a resolution submitted by Supervisor Cook of this city to the effect that the board favors good roads. The board wants the roads, but its members also desire to arrive at the one best method of securing Gratiot's share of the cost, the method that will weigh least heavily on the taxpayers of the county.

With the interest that has been shown in the matter of good roads in the county, and in view of the resolution by the board showing that good roads are favored, it is to be expected that between now and the fall meeting of the new board that some good method will be worked out by interested people of the county for obtaining Gratiot's share of the good roads on the trunk lines.

## Stock Men Want Wool Protection

Favoring tariff protection for wool and sugar, in order that production of these important Michigan products may be increased in the state, members of the Michigan Livestock Breeders and Feeders Association passed resolutions to this effect at their thirty-second annual meeting, held at the Michigan Agricultural College, Jan. 11 and 12. More than 500 men gathered for the conferences, as members of the different special breed associations which held sectional meetings during the gathering.

Officers of the general association, elected for 1922, include: President, H. H. Halladay, Lansing; Vice-Pres., Jacob DeGus, Alicia; Secretary, G. A. Brown, East Lansing; Ass't. Sec'y., W. E. J. Edwards, East Lansing; Treasurer, I. K. Maystead, Osseo. Executive Committee: John Lessiter, Orion; Earl C. McCarthy, Bad Axe; Alexander Minty, Ionia; W. E. Livingston, Parma; and H. W. Norton, Jr., Lansing.

Fifteen separate stock associations also elected their annual officers at their special meetings. Auction sales of horses and cattle were held in the college livestock pavilion on Friday, Jan. 13.

Headliners among the speakers at the general meetings were Ex-Governor Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois, also President of the American Holstein-Friesian Association; and Governor Alex J. Groesbeck, of Michigan.

## DIED WEDNESDAY

Mrs. Charles Clark of Farwell, who was spending the winter at the home of her daughter, Mrs. William Hayward of this city, died Wednesday, following a short illness. A short funeral service will be held at the home of Mrs. Hayward Friday morning and the body will be taken to Farwell for burial.

Typewriter second sheets for sale at the Record office.—advertisement

## WELL KNOWN ALMA PEOPLE PASSED AWAY

DR. E. A. BAGLEY DIED AT HOME  
OF HIS DAUGHTER AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

### Chas. Pettyjohn and Mrs. Renner are Dead

During the past week three old and highly respected residents of this city, Dr. E. A. Bagley, Mrs. C. F. Renner and Charles Pettyjohn have passed away.

Dr. E. A. Bagley, Dr. Edgar A. Bagley, one of Alma's old residents and one of the best known of the older residents of the city, died very suddenly last Friday at the home of his daughter, at Vancleave, Washington, where he had gone about two months previous to spend the winter.

He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. John Shiner, and one son, Lucius, of Okmulgee, Okla.

The body is being brought to Alma and funeral services will be held here Friday afternoon at 2:00 o'clock at the Presbyterian church. Services at the cemetery will be in charge of Alma Lodge No. 244, F. & A. M.

Mrs. C. F. Renner, Mrs. C. F. Renner, a well known resident of this city, died at her home on West Center street Sunday morning after an illness of about three and one-half years. She was 65 years of age.

Harriet Elizabeth Bissell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Bissell was born near Toledo, Ontario, July 26, 1856. At the age of eleven years she moved with her parents to Ypsilanti, Michigan, and eight years later, September 15, 1875, was united in marriage to Christopher F. Renner of that city. They continued to reside there for about two years and then moved to Gratiot County, arriving in Alma on December 31, 1877. They settled on a farm about three miles west of this city. Five years later they moved to Alma and after a residence here of six years returned to their farm where they lived for sixteen years. In 1905 they again moved to Alma and since that time made their home here.

Mrs. Renner was a member of the M. E. church and Sunday school for nearly forty years, a member of the Home and Foreign Missionary societies, the W. C. T. U. and of the Rebekahs. She was a constant church and Sunday school attendant until stricken with paralysis in June of 1918.

She was the mother of two children, one of whom died in infancy. The other daughter, Mrs. Maude Campbell passed away in 1902 at the age of nearly 24 years.

She is survived by her aged husband, who had left the day previous to her death for Ohio to attend the funeral of a relative, and was recalled Sunday to his home, and by two brothers, George and William Bissell.

The funeral services were held Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 p. m. from the Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. M. W. Duffy officiating. Interment at Riverside cemetery. The Rebekahs and her Sunday school class attended the funeral services at the church in a body.

Charles E. Pettyjohn, who has been a respected resident of this city for nearly thirty years, died suddenly at his home on Rockingham avenue Tuesday evening, at the age of 60 years.

Charles Edgar Pettyjohn was born April 15, 1861, in Woodford county, Illinois. He completed his high school work in Terre Haute, Indiana, where he met Mary Eagleton, to whom he was married in 1886 at Newton, Ill. From Newton they moved to Chicago, where for five years he was employed by the Carson Pierce Scott Company. The next three years were spent in Champaign, Illinois. From that city they moved to Alma in 1894 and since that time have made this city their home.

During the first nine years in Alma he was engaged in the mercantile business. It is also noteworthy that Mr. Pettyjohn began the first rural free delivery service out of Alma.

Of late he had been employed at the J. A. Bartley grocery and market. He is survived by his wife, Mary L. Pettyjohn, a brother, Dr. E. S. Pettyjohn, two sons, Elmer of Kalamazoo and Clarence of Alma, also two daughters, Mrs. Verne Morgan of Flint and Miss Helen of this city.

The funeral was held from the home on Rockingham avenue this afternoon, conducted by the Rev. M. W. Duffy of the M. E. church. The body was laid at rest in Riverside cemetery.

Saturday Special—Women's Shoes and pumps worth up to \$12.00 per pair, will be sold for \$1.95 Saturday at D. W. Robinson's.—advertisement

## College to Aid in Vocational Training

President H. M. Crooks of Alma College announced Monday that the institution had signed a contract with the Federal Board of Vocational Training. As a result it is expected that Alma College will aid in the training of former service men, who due to wounds or injuries are unfit for their former vocations, and are seeking training for new work. To what extent former service men will be schooled at Alma College, or in what numbers, has not been announced.

## BRECKENRIDGE POSTMASTER

Ernest Muscott of Breckenridge, who has been active in Republican political circles in the county for a number of years, was nominated last Thursday as the postmaster at that place. Mr. Muscott is well known in this city to a large number of people, especially those who have been interested in Republican politics in the county.

## HIGH SCHOOL WINS DEBATE

BIG RAPID FORENSIC TRIO  
LOSES TO ALMA BY UNANIMOUS  
VERDICT.

Alma High School won the second annual debate of the season in the county with Big Rapids High last Friday evening. The question for debate was "Resolved, that the principle of the closed shop in American industry should receive the support of public opinion." The Alma team upheld the affirmative side of the argument.

The affirmative team based its argument on the contention that the closed shop was absolutely necessary to the success of collective bargaining. This right of collective bargaining, they asserted, could not be denied the laborer. The Alma team also maintained that the closed shop was practicable; that it was beneficial to the entire country; and that the principle of the closed shop must be conceded the worker to counter-balance the powerful machine of the highly organized employer class.

The negative upholders attempted to show that the principle of the closed shop was contrary to American ideals and that it was undemocratic. They also denounced the unions for their past workings. They spent considerable time in proving that the closed shop members broke contracts and tampered with the law. In place of the closed shop they advocated a plan of co-operation between the employer and employee which is now in successful operation in the large Westinghouse corporation.

The debate was exceedingly close and until the time of the rebuttal arguments things looked rather dubious for the Alma team. In the rebuttal, however, the Alma forces outshone their opponents and succeeded in disposing of most of the objections to the principle at issue which had been brought up by the opposition.

Alma Crooks, Dave Strong and John Holmes comprise the Alma team. Crooks and Holmes are veterans of two seasons, but Strong is almost entirely new in the work. The entire team and those much are to be congratulated on their handling of the question. Coach VanDusen, who is managing the team for the second season expressed himself as pleased with the showing the team made.

A report of the results of the debate in the state league has shown the negative to be the stronger side of the question, approximately four contests being won on the negative to one on the affirmative. The fact that Alma won a unanimous decision against elementary odds and matched high school debating team speaks well for the ability of its local representatives.

The fact that Alma has now won two unanimous decisions gives the school eight points in the state ranking. This is the highest possible score and places Alma in a tie with about twelve other schools for first place.

The judges of the debate were Professor Barnes, of Mt. Pleasant Normal, Supl. Salsberry of Bannister and Principal Goffrey, from Greenville High. Each judge returned his vote in favor of the affirmative. Mr. H. S. Babcock presided at the contest.

The next debate is scheduled for Friday, January 27, when Alma meets Mt. Pleasant here. The team takes the negative side of the issue. It will be remembered that Alma defeated Mt. Pleasant unanimously in the initial contest of the season.

## REVIVAL MEETINGS

Commencing on January 20, the Church of God will hold a series of revival meetings at 1232 East Superior street, which will last for two or three weeks. All are cordially invited to attend the services. C. C. Grace of St. Louis, pastor, will have charge of the services.

## RIGHT TO SEAT GIVEN NEWBERRY BY THE SENATE

LONG BATTLE FOR PLACE TO  
WHICH PEOPLE ELECTED  
HIM IS ENDED.

### Senate Voted to Seat Him 46 to 41

After more than two and one-half years the case against Truman H. Newberry is at an end, and he has maintained his right to his seat in the United States Senate to which he was duly elected by the people of the State of Michigan, and the Senate which is the sole judge of the qualifications of its members, has ruled by a vote of 46 to 41 that he is entitled to his place.

After maintaining a silence over the two and a half year period, in court and in senatorial investigations on the advice of his attorneys, he took the floor of the Senate last week and in a masterful address turned the Senate tide of votes in his favor.

Thus Newberry has run the gauntlet of partisan politics from wild rumor at the time of the primaries when he beat Henry Ford, through the election when he again defeated him, and through the United States Senate, and also through the high courts of the land, making his vindication as complete as could be asked. It also shows clearly that the people of Michigan did not sell votes and comes as a vindication of their integrity.

The resolution passed by the Senate is clearly indicative of the belief that Newberry had no knowledge of the sums of money that were spent in his behalf in war time to acquaint the people of the state with the man who was running against the world's most (Continued on page five)

## LAW PROVIDES FOR NO FUNDS

YET IT DOES NOT SAY THAT  
COUNTY CANNOT BURY ITS  
INDIGENT DEAD.

Careful investigation of rumors that the Gratiot County Board of Supervisors had refused to provide funds for the burial of indigents of the county when relatives wanted them buried instead of being sent to medical schools, shows that the Board acted in the matter under Act 142 Public Acts of Michigan of 1909, Article 7751, which says that the body shall be delivered to an undertaker within 36 hours and that the undertaker shall send the body to the University Medical School, the Detroit College of Medicine or to the Homeopathic School of Medicine in Detroit. It also provides that the relatives of such indigents have the right to claim the body and that it shall then be turned over to them.

The law contains no provision for the payment of funeral expenses by the county. Neither does it contain anything against the county paying such funeral expenses.

The Record believes that the law is very proper in saying that such bodies shall not be sent to the "picking vats" against the wishes of the relatives. It also must feel that there are instances when it would be a reflection on the county to send a body to such a place, and not to give it a decent burial. That a person happens to be poor should not necessitate his being sent to a "picking vat" and not given decent burial. Many a person in various parts of the country, once of wealth and of great influence for good in his community, has died in a poor house. That a person who has gone through this world leaving a good influence behind him deserves something better than a "picking vat" can hardly be questioned.

The Record is confident that the supervisors of the county did what they believed right, feeling that the law did not give them power to furnish funds for such burials. There seems, however, to be a strong opinion that even under this law provision could be made for the burial expenses of such indigents. It is understood that the number of indigents at the county farm rarely exceeds eight in a single year. Others in various parts of the county would swell this total slightly in all probability. About \$600.00, it is understood, would be sufficient to provide for the burial each year of the indigents at the county farm, and the cost of burial expense for all of the county's indigents probably would not in any year during the near future at least, exceed \$1,000.